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Open Letter to Science Teachers

A wise choice of emphasis was made in 1932 when the Junior Academy of Science was organized and supported by the



Frank W. Starr Iowa Academy of Science. All activities involved secondary teachers and students. Activities included science club, community - service projects, individual and group science projects, essays, and an annual meeting in conjunction with the Iowa Academy of Science. Several key ideas are still retained. These ideas (e.g., involvement of both student and teacher, learning activities, and research or self-learning programs guided by the teacher) are now considered to be basic to good science teaching. They are a part of most modern curriculum studies.

The format and character of the Junior Academy of Science has changed. However, the basic ideas

have been retained and incorporated into a procedure similar to scientific societies (especially the Iowa Academy of Science). The student, teacher, and scientist-adviser cooperate on a simple research program. Either a Completed Report or a Progress Report is presented at the state meeting, April 18 and 19, in Cedar Falls. The report may be published in the "Junior Academy Proceedings." Participants and other interested science-prone high school students attend this meeting. They listen to scientist and student reports, participate in discussions, and meet others with similar interests.

If you and your students have never attended the state meeting of the Iowa Junior Academy of Science, make it a must this year. Write for particulars and ask for Junior Academy information. You and your students may be glad that you did.

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